

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2006, 6:00 P. M.**  
**Room W135, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex**

Members Present:

Sen. Lyle Hillyard, Committee Co-Chair  
Rep. Ron Bigelow, Committee Co-Chair  
Sen. Gene Davis  
Sen. Mike Dmitrich  
Sen. Dan Eastman  
Sen. Beverly Evans  
Sen. Karen Hale  
Sen. Peter Knudson  
Sen. Ed. Mayne  
Pres. John Valentine  
Rep. Jeff Alexander  
Rep. Ralph Becker  
Speaker Greg J. Curtis  
Rep. Ben C. Ferry  
Rep. Patricia W. Jones  
Rep. Brad King  
Rep. Roz McGee  
Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart

Sen. Curtis Bramble, Vice-Chair  
Rep. David Clark, Vice Chair

Staff Present:

John Massey, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
Michael Kjar, Deputy Director, Fiscal  
Bonnie Brinton, Secretary  
Norda Shepard, Secretary

Others Present:

A list of others present and handouts are on file with the committee minutes.

Committee Co-Chair Bigelow called the meeting to order at 6:52 p.m.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Co-Chair Hillyard moved to approve the corrected minutes of February 27, 2006.

The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Approval of New Funding**

**MOTION:** Co-Chair Hillyard moved to authorize the appropriation of additional ongoing and one-time funds for the items listed on the sheet titled, "Items Proposed for Funding in Addition to approved 02/27/2006 EAC Lists" and dated February 28, 2006.

Regarding this list and the other allocations that have been made, Rep. Becker asked how much, if any, is unallocated out of one-time or ongoing money. Co-Chair Bigelow responded that the totals are approximately \$17 million one-time and a small amount over in ongoing money. The Chairs and staff are working to bring that to exact balance.

Rep. Jones asked about the COLA for Higher Education, the .5% health benefit costs, and if there would be changes. Co-Chair Hillyard explained that the initial approval was for 2.5% and has now been raised to 3.5%. The Legislature will fund the extra .5% with this funding mechanism. The other .5% will have to be funded internally by each school in how they handle benefits, either bigger co-pays, higher deductibles, change of benefits, etc. This decision will be the challenge the school will face in handling that cost, and each school will probably have to handle it slightly differently.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Approval of Bill Drafting**

**MOTION:** Co-Chair Hillyard moved to authorize the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to prepare H.B. 3 "Appropriation Adjustments" based upon actions of the Executive Appropriations Committee to date. The Legislative Fiscal Analyst, in consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Executive Appropriations Committee, are hereby authorized to make any technical and non-substantive corrections as necessary. In preparation of the appropriation bill, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst is authorized to make adjustments between funding sources and fiscal years in order to balance the overall budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Co-Chair Hillyard moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes reported by Bonnie Brinton and Norda Shepard, Committee Secretaries.

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Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard, Co-Chair

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Rep. Ron Bigelow, Co-Chair